

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **Proposed DNRC/FWP Land Exchange**

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), are evaluating a proposed land exchange in Ravalli County. DNRC lands proposed for exchange include an in-holding on the Calf Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA); SE1/4, Section 16, T6N, R19W; and an in-holding on the Threemile WMA; N1/2SE1/4, Section 30, T10N, R18W. FWP land proposed for exchange is the recently purchased Lyman Creek Property, an in-holding in the Sula State Forest; W1/2SW1/4, Section 13 and Gov't Lots 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, SW1/4NE1/4, Section 14, T2N, R19W.

The proposal is for the FWP to exchange approximately 368 acres within the Sula State Forest to DNRC for lands of equal value within or adjacent to the Calf Creek and Threemile WMAs (240 acres). This exchange will allow both DNRC and FWP to consolidate their holdings and provide for improved management of their respective lands. Improved management of these lands will benefit wildlife, public access, and Trust beneficiaries.

The public is invited to comment by reviewing the draft environmental assessment, which is posted online at [www.fwp.mt.gov](http://www.fwp.mt.gov), or by attending a public hearing to be held on December 17, 2008 at the Bitterroot National Forest headquarters in Hamilton, beginning at 6:30 P.M.

Please send written comments to:

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks  
Attn: Mike Thompson [mthompson@mt.gov](mailto:mthompson@mt.gov)  
3201 Spurgin Road  
Missoula, MT 59804

Comments must be received by January 5, 2008.

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Properties involved in proposed purchase. (Fig. 1)  
 Lyman Creek inholdings on Sula State Forest (Fig. 2)  
 DNRC inholdings on Threemile WMA (Fig. 3)  
 DNRC inholdings on Calf Creek WMA (Fig. 4)

## CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

<b>Project Name:</b>	Lyman Creek Land Exchange
<b>Proposed Implementation Date:</b>	March 1, 2009
<b>Proponent:</b>	Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation and the Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks
<b>Location:</b>	Sula State Forest, Three Mile and Calf Creek Wildlife Management Areas
<b>County:</b>	Ravalli County

### I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and the Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP) are proposing a land exchange within Ravalli County. DNRC proposes to exchange one Public Building parcel (80 acres) within the Three Mile Management Area and one Common School parcel (160 acres) within the Calf Creek Wildlife Management area. The FWP is proposing to exchange the recently purchased Lyman Creek Property (368 acres), an in-holding within the Sula State Forest.

Under the proposed action the Lyman Creek property would become part of the Sula State Forest and open to the public throughout the year. The Three Mile and Calf Creek parcels would become part of the WMA and would eliminate the problem of year long access closures on DNRC lands. This exchange will also allow both DNRC and FWP to consolidate their holdings and provide for improved management of their respective lands that will benefit Trust beneficiaries, the public and associated wildlife values.

#### **Description of Subject Lands (with maps)**

All properties involved in the proposed exchange are in Ravalli County (Fig. 1).

The Lyman Creek Property is in south Ravalli County on the east side of French Basin approximately 6 miles northeast of Sula. The Calf Creek WMA is approximately 8 miles east of Hamilton, and the Threemile WMA is approximately 9 miles northeast of Stevensville.

#### **Lyman Creek in-holding on Sula State Forest (Fig. 2)**

Ravalli County, Township 2 North, Range 19 West

Section 13: W1/2SW1/4 (80 acres)

Section 14: Government Lots 5, 6, 8,  
9, 10, 11, SW1/4NE1/4 (287.92 acres)

Total Lyman Creek Property = 367.92 acres

**DNRC in-holdings on Threemile WMA (Fig. 3)**

Ravalli County, Township 10 North, Range 18 West

Section 30: N1/2SE1/4 (80 acres)

**DNRC in-holding on Calf Creek WMA (Fig. 4)**

Township 6 North, Range 19 West

Section 16: SE1/4 (160 acres)

**II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

This proposed exchange was originally addressed as part of the Lyman Creek Project Environmental Assessment October 12, 2006, prepared by the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Region 2 Office. In June, 2007, the adjacent landowners and other interested parties were scoped concerning the proposed DNRC/FWP Land Exchange. A public notice outlining the proposal also appeared in the Ravalli Republic. Only two written comments were received; one from a private party fully supporting the project and one from the Ravalli County Fish and Wildlife Association supporting the land exchange provided the DNRC does not sell or trade the Lyman Creek property for other lands outside of Ravalli County. No other comments were received.

DNRC and FWP personnel were also consulted including: Jeff Collins, Soil Scientist/Hydrologist; Mike McGrath, Wildlife Biologist; Patrick Rennie, Archeologist; Monte Mason, Minerals Management Bureau Chief; Kevin Chappell, Agriculture & Grazing Management Bureau; John Vore, Fish Wildlife & Parks Biologist; and Paul Moore, DNRC Hamilton Unit Manager.

**2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:**

None

**3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

No Action – Under this alternative both DNRC and FWP would not consolidate their holdings or improve management of their respective lands.

Action – The proposed action, as outlined in Section I, would proceed.

### III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

#### 4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

*Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.*

Geology on all sites is granitic influenced soils that have high erosion potential where disturbed, and require above average road drainage and stabilization compared to other common Montana soils. No sites with unique geology or unstable slopes were identified on the shallow to moderately deep soils within the parcels proposed for exchange. On the Lyman Creek parcel, soil erosion initially increased following the Valley Complex Fire in 2000. Soils have largely stabilized in the 7 years following the fire as vegetation reestablished in the area, yet some road segments have continued erosion where surface drainage and vegetation are inadequate. No soil disturbance activities are planned as part of this exchange. There would be low risk of direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to soils within the proposed exchange areas.

#### 5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

*Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.*

Lyman Creek flows along the southern boundary of the FWP parcel to be exchanged to DNRC. The road parallels the creek but is generally far enough away for adequate sediment control. The Lyman Creek property includes existing road segments that are at steep grades and do not currently meet Best Management Practices for road drainage. Under the No-action alternative, inadequate road drainage on the Lyman Creek property would have continued erosion on existing roads and some dispersed effect on water quality.

There is very limited road on the Calf Creek and Threemile Creek Parcels to be exchanged and there would be no perceptible change in soil stability or water quality with both the action and no-action alternative on these parcels.

Under the action alternative, the acquisition of the Lyman Creek property would allow DNRC to improve the system road access to adjacent properties. The property acquisition would allow relocation of problem road segments to improve existing road drainage, and reduce water quality

concerns. Therefore, there is low risk of direct, indirect or cumulative effects to water quality are expected to result from the proposed actions. No measurable impacts to large woody debris, shade, sediment delivery, nutrient supply, channel stability and flow regimes are expected to occur under the proposed action.

#### **6. AIR QUALITY:**

*What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.*

The proposed action would likely have no effect on air quality on the subject lands. Any effects on air quality would likely be in the form of burning either following logging or as habitat improvement, but it is uncertain if such possible activities would be more or less than under the no action alternative. If such projects were to be considered in the future by either state agency, they would go through their own MEPA analysis.

The DNRC is a member of the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group which was formed to minimize or prevent smoke impacts while using fire to accomplish land management objectives and/or fuel hazard reduction (Montana/Idaho Airshed Group 2007). The Group determines the delineation of airsheds and impact zones throughout Idaho and Montana. Airsheds describe those geographical areas that have similar atmospheric conditions, while impact zones describe any area in Montana or Idaho that the Group deems smoke sensitive and/or having an existing air quality problem (Montana/Idaho Airshed Group 2007).

#### **7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:**

*What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.*

### **The Lyman Creek Property**

The Lyman Creek property is 367.92 acres on the east side of French Basin in the southern Bitterroot Valley (Fig. 2) and was purchased by the Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks in 2007. Elevations range from 4,840 to 5,440 feet on predominately south and southwest aspects. Lyman Creek flows along a portion of the southern boundary and two smaller streams with stretches that may occasionally go dry run through the property and drain into Lyman Creek.

In August of 2000, a high severity fire burned through the property with the exception of a small area surrounding a cabin site. Fire damage to vegetation within the property ranged from areas where duff, grasses and shrubs were consumed to areas where trees were mostly consumed. Effects to trees

specifically included varying levels of fire damage, bole scorch, and partial burning. In 2001 and 2002, the property was salvage logged and all dead, dying and high risk trees were removed. The site currently supports an under story grass and early seral forest that has not regenerated well due to the heavy infestation of spotted knapweed. Reforestation needs on the Lyman Creek property would be assumed by DNRC upon completion of the land exchange with FWP. Little commercial sized timber remains on the property. The property falls within climatic section 332B, which was historically about 79% forested. Within this climatic section, the predominant cover type is Douglas-fir and ponderosa pines (Losensky 1997).

### **DNRC in-holding in Calf Creek WMA**

DNRC owns a 160-acre in-holding in the east part of the Calf Creek WMA (Fig 3). Elevation of this quarter section of land ranges from 5,200 to 5,920 feet, and aspects vary because of a ridge that runs south to north through the middle of the parcel. Roughly the western half is a west aspect while in the eastern half is a small north-flowing creek with adjacent aspects being both east and west. Habitat types on the western half are a mix of open grasslands and scattered mostly second growth Douglas fir and occasional ponderosa pine. On the east half habitat types are similar but with less open grassland, with a denser conifer canopy cover, and some spruce/fir along the creek. This parcel is currently leased to FWP by DNRC.

### **DNRC in-holdings in Threemile WMA**

The DNRC parcel associated with the Threemile WMA being considered in this proposal is an 80-acre in-holding along the western edge of the WMA. Elevation of the 80-acre piece ranges from 4,400 to 4,610 feet on a western aspect. The forest-grassland ecotone bisects this parcel with roughly its western half in open grassland and the eastern being scattered mostly second growth ponderosa pine and occasional Douglas-fir. This parcel is currently leased for grazing by DNRC.

The importance of the Threemile area as winter range for elk and deer has long been recognized by FWP. The WMA is the nucleus of a complex of FWP investments in habitat including its purchase of two adjoining Conservation Easements – the 1,904-acre Brown easement in 1995 and the 5,355-acre Bolin Easement in 1997

### **Timber Volume on DNRC In-holdings**

In the fall of 2006 DNRC conducted a cruise on the Threemile parcel, (section 30) and the Calf Creek parcel, (section 16). The following are the combined cruise results for both parcels prepared by the DNRC Forest Management Bureau, Inventory Section.

Total area of DNRC land cruised – 240 acres

Total Forested area – 185.6 acres

Net Board Foot Volume – 567MBF – Section 30; 1,323 MBF – Section 16; Total cruise 1,890 MBF

Species Composition: 50% DF; 43% PP; 7% other (Spruce, Lodgepole Pine, Grand Fir, dead).

Average Defect – 13.3%

Average Net Volume/Forested Acres – 10.186 MBF

Average DBH – 14”

Merchantable Trees/acre - 89

These statistics reflect an accuracy of +/- 10.8% in 9 out of 10 cruises. A complete copy of the cruise can be found in the project file.

### **Weed Management**

Noxious weeds, principally knapweed, plus spot infestations of thistle and cinquefoil occur on all of the proposed parcels. Under the no-action alternative, the levels of noxious weed management vary based on priority setting and project funding. Established Category 1 weeds will be tolerated, while new infestations will be the highest priority for containment and control. The proposed exchange would be similar to the no-action alternative and not result in a measurable change of direct, in-direct or cumulative effects to noxious weed infestations. Both FWP and DNRC would implement integrated weed management on their acquired lands. An integrated approach would be taken which would include prevention and control measures as necessary to reduce the risk of potential noxious weed introduction and spread.

### **8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:**

*Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.*

Lyman Creek supports cold water fisheries that include populations of Westslope cutthroat trout. Both creeks will serve as sources of occasional downstream migrant fish to Schoolmarm Lake and the Bitterroot River. There are existing roads adjacent to and within the streamside zones. Lyman Creek receive only occasional recreational fishing use and is likely to continue at the same level.

Under no-action alternative, no change in effects to species over existing conditions is anticipated. All future actions would be planned to meet applicable laws, rules and site specific plans. No timber harvest (?), road construction or new stream crossings are planned adjacent to or within the SMZ of any Class I streams supporting a fishery or tributary streams that have direct surface connectivity to a stream supporting a fishery. Therefore, no direct, indirect or cumulative effects to down slope cold



water fisheries habitat are expected to result from the proposed actions. No measurable impacts to large woody debris, shade, sediment delivery, nutrient supply, channel stability and flow regimes are expected to occur under the proposed action.

Bald eagles are a sensitive species in Montana. There are active nests along the Bitterroot River and the East Fork of the Bitterroot River, but none are known to occur within ½-mile of the subject lands. The nearest known nest to any of the properties is the Sula nest about 5 miles south of the Lyman Creek property. The proposed action would have no impact on bald eagles.

**9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:**

*Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.*

**Threatened and Endangered Species**

Grizzly bears are classified as a threatened species in Montana. There are no known resident grizzly bears in Ravalli County; however, in 2002 there was a confirmed sighting in the Eightmile Creek drainage that is just a mile north of the Threemile WMA. The proposed action is consistent with the goal of recovering grizzly bear populations in Montana because it would protect lands from development and put a wildlife management emphasis on properties incorporated into the Calf Creek and Threemile WMAs. No action would allow the possibility for increases in potential conflicts with humans if land subdivision or related developments occur.

Canada lynx are classified as a threatened species in Montana. Lynx are likely to occur on any of the properties being considered in this proposed exchange. Completion of the proposed project would benefit lynx by protecting habitat from development and managing land for the good of wildlife on lands to be acquired by FWP. Future land management actions or development would be subject to separate MEPA review. No action could lead to habitat being usurped by development.

Gray wolves are classified as a threatened species in Montana, but exist as an experimental population within the project area. Separate wolf packs occur on or near each of the proposed properties for exchange. Completion of the proposed project would benefit wolves because it would protect lands from development and put a wildlife management emphasis on properties incorporated into the Calf Creek and Threemile WMAs. No action would allow the possibility for increases in potential conflicts with humans if land subdivision or related developments occur.

Westslope Cutthroat Trout are listed as a Class A species of Concern in Montana by the DFWP and a sensitive species by DNRC under ARM 36.11.436. Three Mile Creek and Lyman Creek support westslope cutthroat trout, which DNRC and FWP recognize as a sensitive species. Both creeks receive very little recreational fishing use, and that is likely to continue in the future. Under no-action alternative, no change in effects to species over existing conditions is anticipated. No direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to WCT are expected to occur under the proposed action (see Section 8 – Fisheries for more information regarding potential impact to WCT).

### **Sensitive Species**

The properties considered in this proposal have suitable habitat or habitat potential for a number of sensitive species including fisher, wolverine, flammulated owl, great gray owl, black-backed woodpecker, pileated woodpecker, Lewis's woodpecker, northern goshawk, and olive-sided flycatcher. For all sensitive species, the proposed action would provide protection on the subject lands from habitat loss by removing the possibility of future subdivisions or other developments, but no-action could prove detrimental in the long-term by leaving that possibility open.

#### **10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:**

*Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.*

The DNRC Archaeologist was contacted regarding this exchange and no sites of historic or cultural importance are known to exist on the subject lands. No records of cultural resources have been identified, or previous cultural resource inventories conducted. However, because the properties will not leave State ownership, no cultural resource inventories for this proposed exchange would likely occur.

#### **11. AESTHETICS:**

*Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.*

Action Alternative: Under this alternative some timber harvesting may take place to balance the value of the parcels being exchanged. Harvesting could occur on DNRC subject parcels or FWP lands within the Threemile and Calf Creek WMA's. If harvesting does occur as a result of the exchange it would be conducted in a manner that would meet the goals and objectives of the WMA's management plan. The project would be expected to have a low risk of negatively affecting the aesthetic quality of the area. Some noise from harvesting equipment and log hauling may be heard within the project

area and on haul routes. This is expected to be short in duration and temporary and there would be no measurable cumulative effects on aesthetics.

No Action: under this alternative, little or no short term change to aesthetics is expected.

**12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:**

*Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.*

The proposed project is not expected to use resources that are limited in the area nor are there other activities that would affect or be affected by the project.

**13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:**

*List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.*

Lyman Creek Project, Draft Environmental Assessment October 12, 2006; A proposal by Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks to purchase 367.92 acres in French Basin and later exchange the property with DNRC for in-holdings in the Calf Creek and Threemile Wildlife Management Areas.

Draft Environmental Assessment of A Management Plan for Calf Creek Wildlife Management Area; August 15, 1997; Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks.

**IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION**

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

**14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

*Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.*

None

**15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:**

*Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.*

**Livestock grazing**

Under the action alternative the Lyman Creek property would eventually become part of the DNRC Sula State Forest and be incorporated into its grazing program. Lands acquired by FWP from DNRC

would be incorporated into any existing grazing programs on the Calf Creek and Threemile WMA. Livestock grazing on the WMAs is designed specifically to maintain or enhance forage production for wildlife and protect and enhance riparian areas. About 300 acres of the Threemile WMA is currently one pasture of a 3-pasture rest rotation grazing plan. The other two pastures are part of an adjacent cooperating ranch. If the proposed exchange is approved and completed, the delineation of pastures could be re-evaluated and may result in a change to the management plans. The Three Mile DNRC 80 acre parcel is currently leased for grazing and receives \$118.05 annually in payments. FWP would not retain any grazing license or rights on the Lyman Creek property after it is traded to DNRC. There is currently no livestock grazing on the Calf Creek WMA, and FWP holds the grazing lease on the DNRC tract at this time.

**16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:**

*Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.*

None

**17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:**

*Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.*

There would be little or no effect on the tax base of Ravalli County because FWP makes annual payments to the county in amounts equal to the property taxes that would be assessed to private citizens (MCA 87-1-603). DNRC does not pay property taxes. In this instance, the taxes on the Lyman Creek parcel were \$227.59 in 2005 and if DNRC eventually receives ownership of the Lyman Creek property through the proposed exchange, that property will no longer be assessed by Ravalli County. Conversely, if the exchange is finalized, FWP will make payments in lieu of taxes on the properties it will receive from DNRC that were previously not taxable.

**18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:**

*Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services*

None

**19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:**

*List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.*

The DNRC would manage lands involved in this project in accordance with the State Forest Land Management Plan (DNRC 1996) and the Administrative Rules for Forest Management (ARM

36.11.401 through 450). The FWP would incorporate the involved lands into the existing Management Plans for the Calf Creek or Threemile WMA's.

**20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:**

*Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.*

**Hunting**

The Bitterroot Valley is one of the most popular elk hunting destinations in western Montana, and the three areas considered in this proposal – Lyman Creek and the Calf Creek and Threemile WMAs – contribute significantly to that hunting. The Lyman Creek property in the East Fork of the Bitterroot is in the heart of a popular hunting area in hunting district 270. Estimates based on FWP Darby Game Check Station and statewide harvest survey data for that part of the hunting district suggest that an average of 1,200 hunters per year spend 7,800 hunter-days pursuing elk and harvest about 200, half bulls and half antlerless. A record harvest occurred in 2005 with hunters passing through the Darby Check Station checking 475 elk including 178 bulls and 297 antlerless from the East Fork of the Bitterroot. Deer hunting is also popular in the East Fork of the Bitterroot and about 900 hunters each year spend 5,400 days a field and harvest 140 mule deer and 129 whitetails.

There is no check station data that covers the area of the Calf Creek WMA in HD 261 or the Threemile WMA in HD 204. Estimates of hunting in these areas are based on the 1999-2003 statewide hunter harvest survey data and knowledge of elk distribution from annual elk census flights. This data suggests that in the general area including the Calf Creek WMA about 300 elk hunters spend nearly 2,000 days afield and harvest around 50 elk each year, about one third bulls and two thirds antlerless. In the same area about 225 deer hunters spend about 1,300 days and harvest around 10 mule deer and 70 whitetails annually.

Each year in the Threemile WMA area of HD 204 nearly 400 elk hunters hunt more than 2,400 days and harvest about 60 elk, one third being bulls. Also, an estimated 500 deer hunters spend over 2,800 days hunting and harvest about 25 mule deer and 125 whitetails.

Log hauling and harvesting may temporarily disrupt use of the area for recreation. However, due to the short duration of the proposed action, measurable impacts to recreation would be expected to be minimal.

**21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:**

*Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing.*

No measurable impacts to population or housing would likely occur.

**22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:**

*Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.*

No measurable impacts to social structures would likely occur.

**23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:**

*How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?*

No measurable impacts to cultural uniqueness and diversity would likely occur.

**24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:**

*Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.*

**Economic Impacts**

No cumulative financial impacts are expected with this proposed exchange. Some timber harvesting may occur within the WMA's to balance the value of the exchanged parcels. This would be short in duration and would not have cumulative economic impacts. No significant financial impacts to local businesses associated with this exchange are expected.

**Social Effects**

No Impacts to social effects as a result of the proposed action are expected.

<b>EA Checklist Prepared By:</b>	<b>Name:</b> Paul Moore <b>Title:</b> DNRC, Hamilton Unit Manager	<b>Date:</b>
<b>EA Checklist Prepared By:</b>	<b>Name:</b> John Vore <b>Title:</b> Wildlife Biologist, FWP	<b>Date:</b>

**NEED FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Based on an evaluation of impacts to the physical and human environment, under MEPA, the proposed action is not a significant action affecting the human environment; therefore, an environmental impact statement is not a necessary level of review.

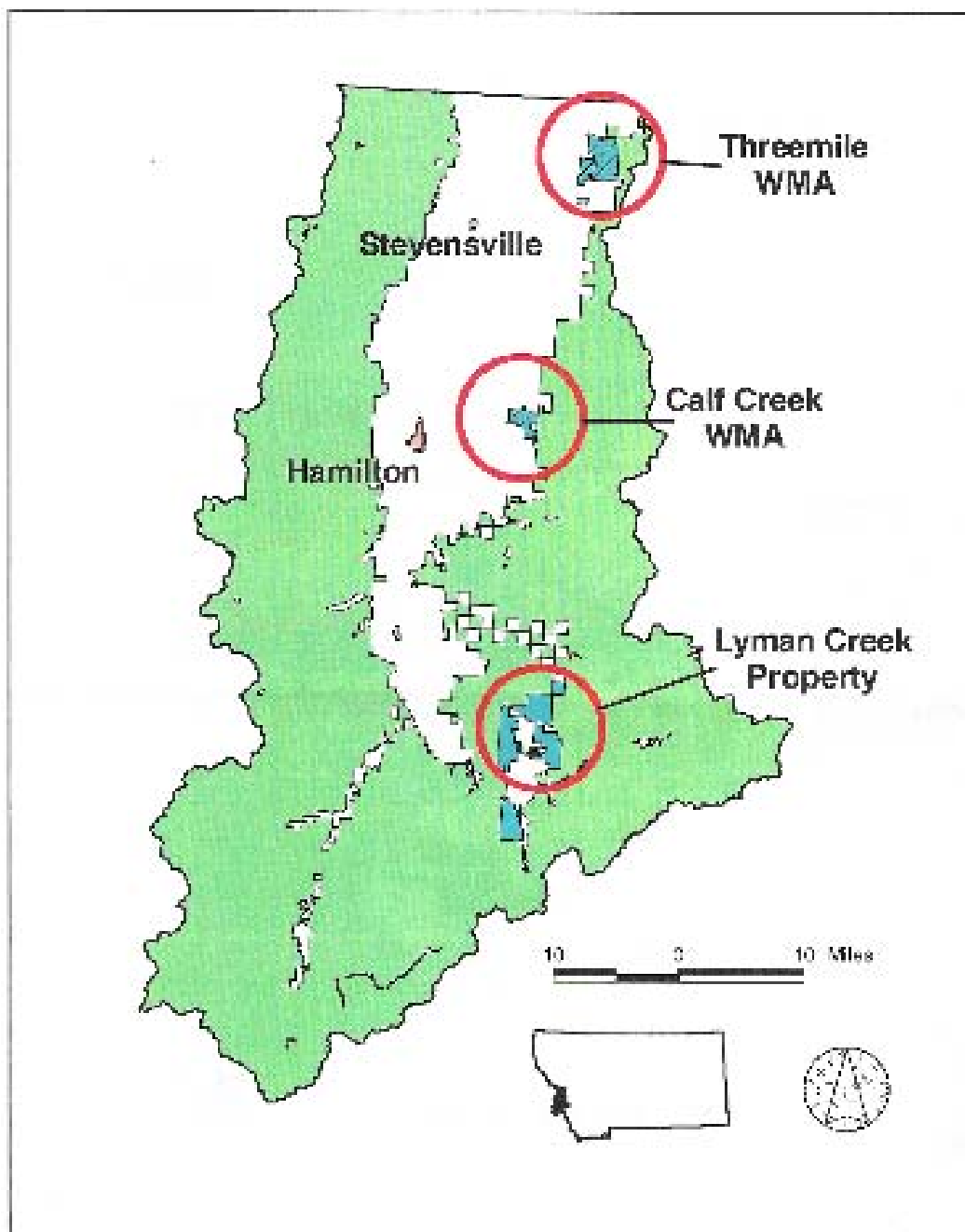


Figure 1: Ravalli County showing the location of the Lyman Creek Property and the Calf Creek and Threemile WMAs. Forest Service land is shown as green, DNRC is blue, and BWP's WMAs are crosshatched blue.





### Lyman Creek Inholding on Sula State Forest

Ravalli County, Township 2 North, Range 19 West

Section 13: W1/2SW1/4 (80 acres)

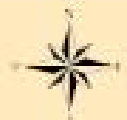
Section 14: Government Lots 5,6,8,

9,10,11, SW1/4NE 1/4 (287.92 acres)

Total Lyman Creek Property = 367.92 acres

### Legend

-  Roads
-  State\_Ownership
-  Lyman Creek Property



0.5 0.25 0 0.5 Miles

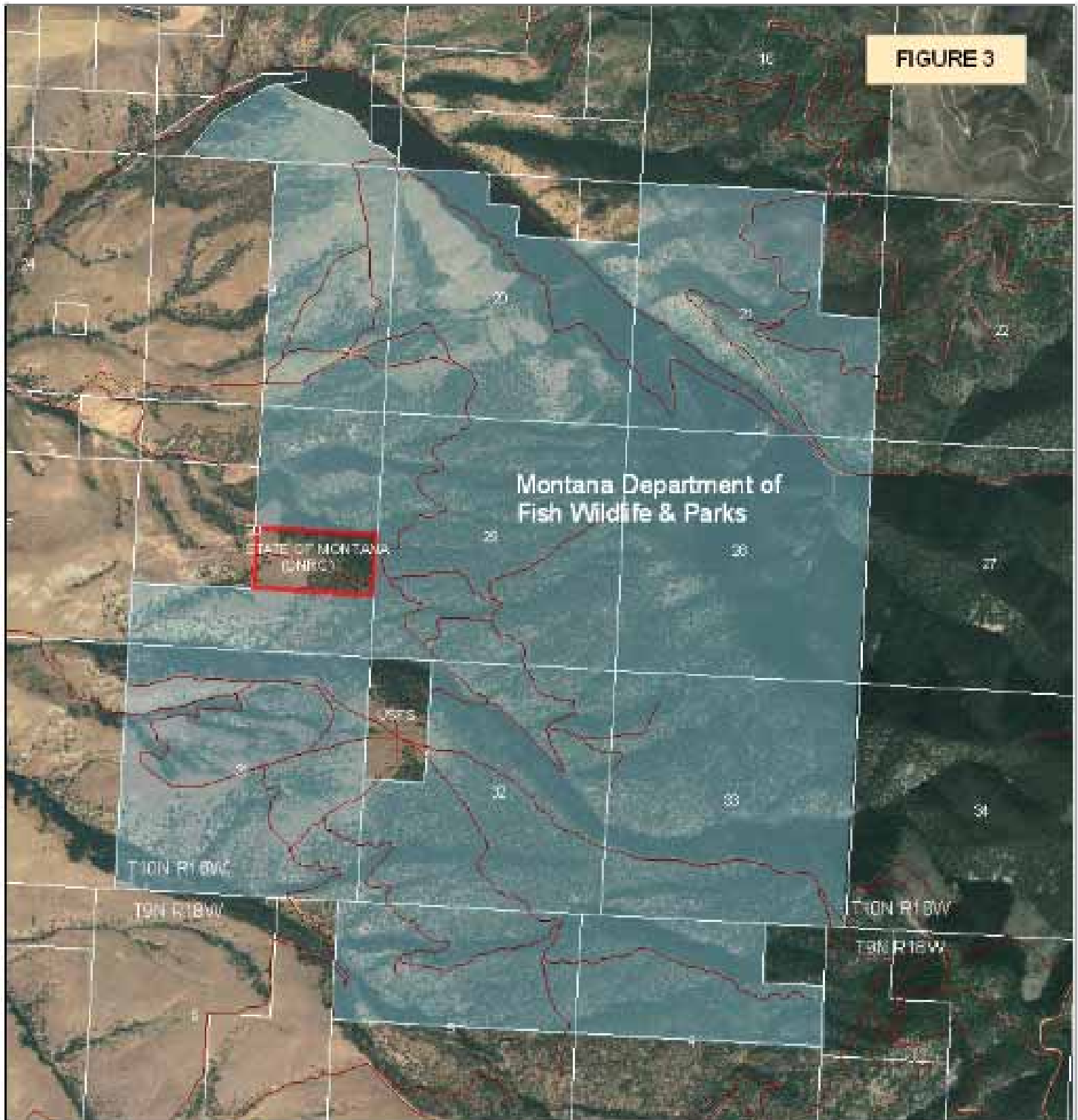
1 inch equals 0.790342 miles

MAP IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS A VISUAL GUIDE  
AND ITS ACCURACY IS NOT WARRANTED



**Montana Fish  
Wildlife & Parks**

FIGURE 3



**DNRC inholdings on Threemile WMA**

Ravalli County, Township 10 North, Range 18 West  
Section 30: N1/2SE1/4 (80 acres)

**Legend**

 Subject 80 Acres

 Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

1:33,572 SCALE

MAP IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS A VISUAL GUIDE  
AND ITS ACCURACY IS NOT WARRANTED



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Wildlife & Parks*

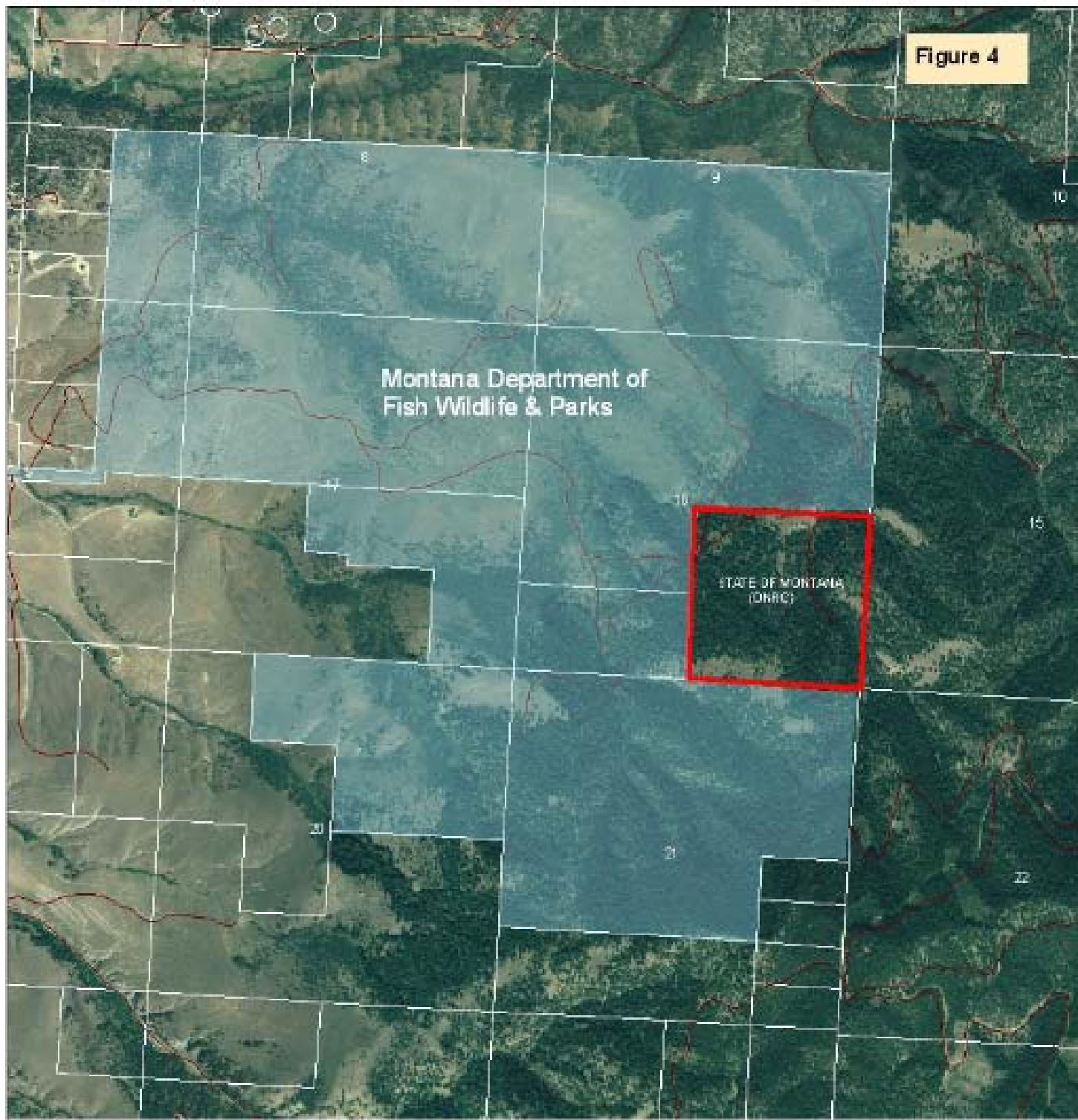


Figure 4

**DNRC inholding on Calf Creek WMA**  
Township 6 North, Range 19 West  
 Section 16: SE1/4 (160 acres)

**Legend**

- Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks
- Subject 160 Acres



0.0 0.25 0.5 Miles

SCALE

1:24,000 099881

MAP IS INTENDED TO SERVE AS A VISUAL GUIDE  
 AND ITS ACCURACY IS NOT WARRANTED



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 Wildlife & Parks**